

**KINROSS CHARTER TOWNSHIP
PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

July 13, 2009

4884 W. Curtis St.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ron Munro, Chair
Herman Calkins, Vice Chair
Leo Wiley, Secretary
Brenda Case, Trustee
Rick Bernhardt
Mark Howland

MEMBERS ABSENT

David Gaines

Also, present Trustee O'Brien, Richard Oliver, Clerk Besteman, Cynthia Oliver, Treasurer Munro, Dep. Supervisor Johnson, and Judy Wright.
Attendance 20

Chair Munro called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Calkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#1 MOVED: by Calkins, second by Wiley, to accept the June 8, 2009, meeting minutes as written. Motion carried.

#2 MOVED: by Case, second by Calkins, to approve the July 13, 2009, meeting agenda as amended to include discussion of a letter from William Fahey. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

You might want to contact city planner Jim Hendricks for information about a truck route ordinance.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Alan Belcher, Senior Vice President, Operations, for Mascoma Corporation gave the Commissioners a background on the project that is being built in Kinross Charter Township. He stated that the alternative fuels industry is growing rapidly in the Midwest US and Brazil. The military is investing much of it's resources toward the development of this technology to enable it to be less dependent upon foreign oil and reduce it's carbon footprint. The technology will help provide rural prosperity through the use of non-food fuel sources that can be grown locally. He stated that they intend to select harvest hardwood timber at a rate lower than that at which regeneration will occur. Howard Hilhorst, of J.M. Longyear, LLC, described the location of the physical plant facilities on the 355 acres that is now owned by Frontier Renewable Resources, a joint venture between JM Longyear, LLC and Mascoma Corporation. He informed the Commissioners that he believed that the rail spur would take a northern route from the existing railway location across Gaines Highway to the plant. Stating that their water needs were very modest, he believes that the lines servicing the RJ Wallis School would be the most viable tap-in location. Electric and gas service will also be routed so that the least amount of disruption is caused to existing structures and roadways.

#3 MOVED: by Bernhardt, second by Wiley, to schedule a public hearing for August 10, 2009, for the purpose of hearing public comment on the rezoning of the parcel known as: Chippewa County, Kinross Township, T45N, R01W, Sections 21 and 28: All that part of the S 1/2 of Section 21 lying E of the centerline of Gaines Highway, EXCEPT that part lying west of the easterly edge of State Designated Snowmobile Trail # 49 otherwise known as the Mackinac Trail Spur. ALSO: All that part of the North 1/2. of Section 28 lying E of the centerline of Gaines Highway, Excepting- and reserving unto the State of Michigan an access easement to Enable the State of Michigan to access an adjacent parcel described as: the NW ¼ of SE 1/4 of Section 28 (benefited parcel). (355 acres more or less.) from Recreational/Forest to Heavy Industrial. Motion carried.

Richard Oliver, of DSP, Inc., informed the Commission that he had been in contact with MIOSHA about the quarry inspections and that they were very happy that the Township is able to inspect and enforce our ordinance, which is in agreement with the State's standards. Inspections revealed that Thompson's Sand has made significant progress and is currently compliant with the quarrying ordinance as are all the other quarry operations within the Township.

#4 MOVED: by Calkins, second by Wiley, to recommend that the Township Board renew quarry licenses of Thompson Sand, Tilson Hills, Art Reid, Great Lakes Excavating, Northern Sand & Gravel, and Norris Contracting. Motion carried.

Chairman Munro stated that Clyde's Restaurant did not need to have a site plan review for their operation within the Township as the location had been previously a food service establishment.

Chairman Munro presented a proposed letter of engagement from the firm of Fahey, Schultz, Burzych, Rhodes, PLC to the Commissioners. He asked to be able to request that the Township Board engage this firm to counsel the Commission and review ordinances, etc. on an as needed basis.

#5 MOVED: by Bernhardt, second by Case, to table the request to engage the law firm of Fahey, Schultz, Burzych, Rhodes, PLC, until the August 10, 2009, meeting. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

It was decided to table the Truck Route/Parking Ordinance until the August 10, 2009, meeting.

Kelly Drake of UP Engineers and Architects presented the final draft of the Master Plan containing the information provided since the last meeting and sources of possible grants for future projects. She stated that the full plan should be available for viewing online by Friday, July 17, 2009.

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#6 MOVED: by Bernhardt, second by Calkins, to request permission from the Township Board to distribute the master plan to adjacent and interested parties for comment.
Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20PM.

Leo Wiley, Secretary

Minutes prepared by Judy Wright